



OPERATION HOPE

The mission of "Operation Hope" is to assist Indianapolis and Marion County residents who are un- and under-employed, and who may also have a criminal conviction to obtain meaningful employment, in order to have a positive impact on public safety and to reduce the recidivism rate. This mission involves accomplishing several goals, including:

- To develop and maintain a list of employers who agree to provide meaningful employment opportunities for the target residents;
- To coordinate the efforts of public and private agencies that provide pre-employment, job-readiness, and life skills training, and support services for those residents;
- To make referrals on City of Indianapolis letterhead to employers with which an appropriate opportunity exists for residents who've completed such training;
- To advocate with government and social service agencies on behalf of the population of residents whom "Operation Hope" seeks to serve;
- To arrange for ongoing support and follow-up services;
- To collect, maintain and provide statistical data related to employment of the target residents

The process involves making contact with employers to explain the "Operation Hope" mission and procedures for making referrals following training, and to solicit commitments for appropriate employment opportunities. "Operation Hope" is not a guaranteed job program. Nor is it a placement program. We're not asking employers to hire individuals sight-unseen, or to create any sort of job quota system, but rather to allow those individuals whom we may refer to be considered on the basis of them meeting minimum qualifications for positions, and not to be denied simply because they may have criminal convictions on record. Individuals whose convictions involve crimes of a violent or sexual nature pose a particular challenge but still are welcomed.

Orientations for "Operation Hope" are held each Wednesday (except for where noted otherwise*), in the City-County Building according to the following schedule:

4/09/2008 2:00PM Room 224
4/16/2008 2:00PM Room 118
4/23/2008 2:00PM Room 224
4/30/2008 2:00PM Room 260
5/07/2008 2:00PM Room 224
5/14/2008 2:00PM Room 118
5/20/2008 2:00PM Room 118*
5/28/2008 2:00PM Room 118
6/04/2008 2:00PM Room 224

Contact Dave Rozzell, Special Assistant to the Public Safety Director, at (317) 327-5775, or drozzell@indygov.org for more information.